NUMB. CCXXVII.

The SPECTATOR.

Ὦ μοι ἐγὼ τί πάθω; τί δ' οὐ ταλάεργος; ἐχ ὑπαχθείς;
Ἐς κύματα πηδᾷς εἰς πέτρα, ἀλεῖμμαι
Ὥστερ τὰς θύννας σκοπιάζεται Ὄλπις ὁ γριπεύς·
Κἦτα μὴ ποθάνω, τό γε μὰν τεὸν ἄδυ πέπυκται. Theoc.

Tuesday, November 20. 1711.

In my last *Thursday*'s Paper I made mention of a Place called *The Lovers Leap*, which I find has raised a great Curiosity among several of my Correspondents. I there told them that this Leap was used to be taken from a Promontory of *Acarnania*. This *Leucas* was formerly a part of *Acarnania*, being divided from it by a narrow Neck of Land which the Sea has by length of time overflowed and washed away; so that at present *Leucas* is quite disjoined from the Continent, and is a little Island in the *Ionian* Sea. The Promontory of this Island, from whence the Lover took his Leap, was formerly called *Leucate*. If the Reader has a mind to see both the Island and the Promontory by their modern Titles, he will find in his Map the Island of *Leucas* under the Name of St. *Maura*, and the Ancient Promontory of *Leucate* under the Name of the Cape of St. *Mauro*.

As I am engaged thus far in Antiquity, I must observe that *Theocritus* in the Motto prefixed to my Paper, describes one of his despairing Shepherds addressing himself to his Mistress after the following manner. *Alas! What will become of me? Unhappy that I am! Will you not hear me? I'll throw myself headlong, and take a Leap into that part of the Sea which is so much frequented by* Olphis *the Fisherman. And tho' I should escape with my Life, I know you will be pleased with it.* I shall leave it with the Critics to determine whether the Place which this Author so particularly points out, was not the above-mentioned *Leucate*, or at least some other Lover's Leap, which was supposed to have had the same Effect. I cannot believe, as all the Interpreters do, that the Shepherd means nothing further here, than that he would drown himself, since he represents the Circumstances of his Leap as doubtful, by adding that if he should escape with his Life, he knows his Mistress would be pleased with it; which is, according to this Interpretation, that she would Rejoice any way at the Death of a Lover who was so troublesome to her.

After this short Preface I shall present my Reader with some Letters which I have received upon this Subject. The first is sent me by a Physician.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

THE Lovers Leap which you mention in your Two hundred and twenty third Paper, was generally, I believe, a very effectual Cure for Love, and not only for Love, but for all other Evils. In short, Sir, I am afraid it was such a Leap as that which *Hero* took to get rid of her Passion for *Leander*. A Man is in no danger of breaking his Heart, who breaks his Neck to prevent it. I know very well the Wonders which Ancient Authors relate concerning this Leap; and in particular, that very many Persons who tried it escaped not only with their Lives, but their Limbs. If by this means they got rid of their Love, tho' it may in part be ascribed to the Reasons you give for it; why may not we suppose, that the Cold Bath into which they plunged themselves, had also some share in their Cure? A Leap into the Sea, or into any Creek of Salt Waters, very often gives a new Motion to the Spirits, and a new Turn to the Blood, for which reason we prescribe it in Distempers which no other Medicine will reach. I could produce a Quotation out of a very venerable Author, in which the Phrenzy produced by Love is compared to that which is produced by the biting of a mad Dog. But as this Comparison is a little too coarse for your Paper, and might look as if it were cited to ridicule the Author who has made use of it, I shall only hint at it, and desire you to consider whether if the Phrenzy produced by these two different Causes be of the same Nature, it may not very properly be cured by the same means.

I am, SIR,

Your most humble Servant,

and Well-wisher,

ESCULAPIUS.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

I Am a young Woman crossed in Love. My Story is very long and melancholy. To give you the Heads of it, a young Gentleman, after having made his Applications to me for three Years together, and filled my Head with a thousand Dreams of Happiness, some few Days since married another. Pray tell me in what Part of the World your Promontory lies, which you call the Lovers Leap, and whether one may go to it by Land. But alas I am afraid it has lost its Virtue, and that a Woman of our Times would find no more Relief in taking such a Leap, than in sing-

'singing an Hymn to *Venus*. So that I must cry 'out with *Dido* in *Dryden's Virgil*,

Ah! cruel Heav'n, that made no Cure for Love!

Your disconsolate Servant,

ATHENAIS.

MISTER SPICTATOR,

'MY Heart is so full of Loves and Passions for 'Mrs. *Gwinifrid*, and she is so pettish, and 'overrun with Cholers against me, that if I had 'the good Happiness to have my Dwelling (which 'is placed by my great Cran-Father upon the Pot-'tom of an Hill) no farther distance but twenty 'Mile from the Lofers Leap, I would indeed indea-'four to preak my Neck upon it on purpose. Now 'good Mister Spictator of *Crete Prittain*, you must 'know it, there is sin *Caernarvanshire* a fery pig Moun-'tain, the Clory of all *Wales*, which is named '*Penmainmaure*, and you must also know, it is no 'great Journey on Foot from me; but the Road is 'stony and bad for Shoes. Now there is upon the 'Forehead of this Mountain a very high Rock, (like 'a Parish Steeple) that cometh a huge deal over 'the Sea; so when I am in my Melancholies, and 'I do throw my self from it, I do desire my fery 'good Friend to tell me in his Spictator, if I shall 'be cure of my griefons Loses; for there is the Sea 'clear as the Glass, and as creen as the Leek: Then 'likewise, if I be drown, and preak my Neck, if 'Mrs. *Gwinifrid* will not lose me afterwards. Pray 'be speedy in your Answers, for I am in crete 'haste, and it is my Tesires to do my Pusiness with-'out loss of Time. I remain, with cordial Affections, 'your ever loving Friend

Davyth ap Shenkyn.

'*P. S.* My Law Suits have brought me to *Lon-*'*don*, but I have lost my Causes; and so have made 'my Resolutions to go down and Leap before the 'Frosts begin; for I am apt to take Colds.

Ridicule, perhaps, is a better Expedient against Love than sober Advice, and I am of opinion that *Hudibras*, and Don *Quixote* may be as effectual to cure the Extravagancies of this Passion, as any of the old Philosophers. I shall therefore publish, very speedily, the Translation of a little *Greek* Manuscript, which is sent me by a Learned Friend. It appears to have been a Piece of those Records which were kept in the little Temple of *Apollo*, that stood upon the Promontory of *Leucate*. The Reader will find it to be a Summary Account of several Persons who tried the Lovers Leap, and of the Success they found in it. As there seem to be in it some Anachronisms and Deviations from the Ancient Orthography, I am not wholly satisfied my self that it is authentick, and not rather the Production of one of those *Grecian* Sophisters, who have imposed upon the World several spurious Works of this Nature. I speak this by way of Precaution, because I know there are several Writers, of uncommon Erudition, who would not fail to expose my Ignorance, if they caught me tripping in a matter of so great moment.

ERRATA.

In Yesterday's Spectator, *Col.* 3. *line* 12. *for* Resurrection *read* Transfiguration.

☞ There is now Printing by Subscription two Volumes of the SPECTATORS on a large Character in Octavo; the Price of the two Volumes well Bound and Gilt two Guineas. Those who are inclined to Subscribe, are desired to make their Payments to Jacob Tonson, Bookseller in the Strand, the Books being so near finished, that they will be ready for the Subscribers at or before Christmas next.

The Third and Fourth Volumes of the LUCUBRATIONS of Isaac Bickerstaff, Esq; are ready to be delivered at the same Place.

N. B. The Author desires that such Gentlemen who have not received their Books for which they have Subscribed, would be pleased to signifie the same to Mr. Tonson.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this present Tuesday, being the 20th of November, will be presented a Comedy called The Wife's Relief: Or, The Husband's Cure. By her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes. At common Prices. This Play will be Sold by J. Tonson at Shakespear's Head in the Strand.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market To Morrow, being the 21st Instant, will be performed an Opera called Hydaspes. The Part of Darius to be performed by Signior Rosa Piscina. The two Benches in the Pit to be raised as the Price of the Boxes. No Person to be admitted without Tickets, and begin exactly at six.

For the Benefit of Mr. Anthony Young, Organist of St. Clements-Danes, at Stationer's hall, on Thursday the 22d Instant being St. Cæcelia's Day, will be performed a Consort of Vocal and Instrumental Musick, most of which will be entirely new; Mr. Leveridge sings that celebrated Song, beginning at Genius of England. Tickets are to be had at St. James's Coffee-house, Temple Bar, Devereux Court, John's in 8 Swithings Ally, and at Charles Lillie's at the Corner of Beaufort Buildings in the Strand, at 7 s. each.

To be Sold (without Doors) by the Merchant at his House in Mincing lane, near to Tho. Palmer, Esq; a parcel of new French Wines, viz. Obryan Claret at 34. the Hhd. 3 l. 9 d. the Flask, Hermitage and Burgundy at 5 l. the Flask.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

To Morrow the 21st Instant, at Garraway's Coffee-house, at 5 in the Afternoon, (only one Cask in a Tierce) Hhds. and 3 Tierces of Excellent new Clarets, viz. Le Fit, Margaux, Obrion, and other of the best Growths of Bourdeaux, bright, and of the true flavour, neat, and not one Hhd. of the Cargo, Imported by the Ship Christina, Barge Hustler directly from Bourdeaux; now in Vaults in Token-house-yard in Bank-side of Leaden hall Coffee-house in Leaden-hall-street. To be seen and tasted this Day from 9 to 1, and from 2 to 5; and to Morrow till the time of Sale. Catalogues are dispersed by Tho. Tuffnell Broker, in Seething-lane in Tower street.

Whereas Sagoe has of late been Sold for Six Shillings, the best is now Sold for Four Shillings by most Dealers in London.

This Day is Published,

The Ballance of Power, or a Comparison of the Strength of the Emperor and the French King. Price 2 d. A Letter to a High Churchman, in answer to the Reasons why the Queen should put an end to the War. Price 6 d. Anguis in Herba: Or the fatal Consequences of a Treaty with France. Price 6 d. Reflections on the Examiner's Scandalous Peace. Price 2 d. Rasticus: A Dialogue between the late Medley and Examiner. Price 6 d. Both with or without the Plan. All Sold by A. Baldwin.

Bibliotheca Streterriana: Being a Catalogue of the Libraries of the Late Mr. Streeter, (Serjeant Painter to K. Charles, James, William, and Q. Ann,) and another Eminent Collection containing a curious Collection of the most valuable Authors in Divinity, History, Astrology, Physick, Travels, Miscellanies, Law, &c. in Greek, Latin, French, Italian and English. Printed by Cramoisan, Aldus, Gryphius, Stephens, Elzever, and other famous Printers: With several of the Delph. Classicks Printed at Paris, Variorums, &c. Likewise several Manuscripts, and a great Collection of Pamphlets. Which will be sold by Auction this day the 26 th of November, 1711. at the Black-Boy Coffee-house Ave-Mary-Lane, beginning every Evening at 5 of the Clock. Printed for John Harding, Bookseller, at the Post-Office upon the Hill in St. Martins Lane. Catalogues are deliver'd gratis by Mr. Harding under the Royal Exchange, Mr. Cliff at the Three Crowns in Chancery side, Mr. Clements at the Half Moon in St. Paul's Church-yard, Mr. Barker in Westminster Hall, Mr. Barnes in the Pall-Mall, Mr. Bateman in St Martin's-lane, Mr. Archer in Russel Street, Covent-Garden, Mr. Curll in Fleetstreet, and at the Place of Sale. N. B. The Books may be viewed four Days before the Sale begins.

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